

I'm so honest. I have to confess then
that I'm no flutist. She laughs
and says I'm only proving her point.

— Sue Cowing

Honolulu HI

NORMA JEANE

Richard and I drove up to
Westwood one night
to visit you but it was
late — almost midnight —
and the gates were locked.
We considered scaling the fence
but quickly discarded that idea
realizing I was too stoned to
accomplish such a feat
without breaking a limb.
We made vague plans to drive up
again when the park was open
but never did.

Richard and I don't see each other
anymore but one of these days
I'll drive up alone and tell you
what I would have that night,
that if I ever have a daughter
she'll be called Norma Jeane
(with an "e" on the end,
the way you spelled it)
and she will be very much loved
and very much wanted
as all children deserve to be.

COME LIVE WITH ME AND BE MY LOVE

Since you have a job we'll be able to
rent a nice two-bedroom apartment
within walking distance of McDonald's.
We'll have two phones and two answering machines
but we can share the cats and
cleaning supplies.

We'll spend Thanksgiving with your family
and Christmas with mine and you'll

save up your vacation days so we can take trips to Chicago and Cancun.

Since I want to adopt a child, we'll have to get married so the social workers will think us stable. It will help if we buy a house, too. We'll sell your Toyota and buy a mini-van. I'll keep my Dodge until it dies at which time I'll look around for something economical like a Fiat convertible.

I'll work on my B.A. a class or two at a time but you'll have to work a lot of doubles what with the house payments and all so you won't have much time to read or write and the Wormwoods will stack up until you cancel your subscription altogether.

We'll attend poetry readings once in a while but eventually we'll have to give that up, too. There just won't be enough time for poetry and true love.

TWO SCIENTIFICALLY PROVEN FACTS

1. A bathroom scale alternately placed in six positions on a bathroom floor yields six different readings.
2. The correct reading is always the lowest of the six.

— Kathy Hand

Long Beach CA

I HAVE COMPLETELY GIVEN UP COOKING

i have completely given up cooking. after four years of living alone i have finally called it quits. the act was gradually getting on my nerves until late last week, i guess it was, when i decided to only eat what could be consumed